



The Daily News

NEWPORT

Tuesday Afternoon, June 16, 1863.

For the purpose of publishing local news items, general and war news, see this page. Latest news by telegraph, commercial and marine matters, city news, miscellaneous readings, full subscription and advertising terms, first page.

RESISTING THE ENROLLMENT.

We copy the following very timely suggestion from the Boston Evening Journal. They are just the views which all loyal men should hold at this time, in regard to this matter of so vital importance to the nation:

A. N. Y. paper which has had but few rivals in the art of abusing and misrepresenting the measures of the Administration, says in its last issue received: "We regret to be called upon to chronicle, as we do today, a bloody resistance to the enrollment, in some portions of Indiana and Pennsylvania. We should be sorry to see these lawless acts imitated elsewhere. Nothing but mischief, and anarchy, and bloodshed can come of them. It is the sacred duty of all good citizens to submit to the conscription law, as to all other laws, whether good or bad, until such times as they are made by the competent tribunals. Resistance to them under any circumstances, it is well to understand, is rebellion—nothing more, nothing less, and as we have rebellion enough already on hand, in the seceding States, we cannot afford to have any more of it, on such a pretext, nearer home." This is very true, and we are glad to see it originating in the columns from which we copy it. We wish we could read it as a token of reformation, but it is totally different in spirit from much which has emanated from the same source. But whether we are justified or not in taking this hopeful view, it is plain that those who sincerely deprecate these lawless attempts to resist the enrollment, ought, in consistency, to abandon a line of remark which the opponents of the enrollment can have to often indulged in. Mr. Vallandigham asked the people of New Jersey: "Shall your sons be conscripted to carry on this war for two years more, and for the negro?" The response: "No, never." "Let them try it." "We defy them." These are the natural replies of sensible resistance, and were provoked by the question. A leading speaker in a New York convention declared, amid the applause of his auditors, that the enrollment act was far worse than the conscription of Russia, which caused the revolt of the Poles. Time and again the people have been told that the conscript act sacrificed the lives of the poor to the purposes of the rich, and that the whole scheme was an invention in the interest of "the abolition tyrant" at Washington, whose government, according to Mr. Vallandigham, is "a complete and absolute despotism, as iron and inexorable in its character as the worst despots of the Old World, or the worst of modern times, even to Bonaparte." Another able demagogue went a step further, and declared that he saw, in a vision, blood at the ballot-box this fall. Now it is impossible to fling about such firebrands as these, and not to expect some sparks to catch. The ardent men who are scattering these insinuations may, indeed, keep within the letter of the law, but their direct effect is to impel the ignorant and the prejudiced into open resistance, whenever they conceive themselves in danger of being touched by the enforcement of the act. And all who join in such utterances, or lend them currency, must share in the responsibility for the sad results which follow. To condemn the latter, then, is not alone sufficient—every good citizen will take care that he says and does nothing which tends to such results. If the measures which the Government, under its most solemn responsibility, adopts for the salvation of the country, cannot be approved, let them either be silently acquiesced in, or so disavowed as to give no possible encouragement to violence and disorder.

Canoe Boats.—A correspondent of the New York Tribune, in his account of the crossing of the Rappahannock near Kelly's Ford, on Tuesday, by detachments from the 1st, 3d and 5th Corps, thus speaks of a novel kind of boat used:

"The manner of crossing is worthy of particular attention, as this was the first practical experiment ever made in the army with canoe boats. The canoes were built from the ordinary punt on a long frame-work of simple, over which heavy canvas is fastened, and through which water cannot penetrate. One boat carried twenty men, and is easily managed by a few oarsmen. Lieut. Farrell of the 15th N. Y., with a detachment of twenty-five men and two wagons on which the frame-work of the boats was transported, left camp at 8 o'clock on Sunday night, reaching the vicinity of the ford on Monday at 10 o'clock a.m. The boats were constructed within four hundred yards of the river, and beside a stream leading into it. Yesterday morning at 2 o'clock the boats were towed in the creek, and an attempt was every thing conducted that we were in the stream before the rebels discovered the boats. The boats are easily transported, and when packed on wagons give no idea of their particular purpose."

Reinforcements to New York.—The following is from the New York Journal of Commerce of yesterday:

"In addition to the large number of returned regiments whose proposed reorganization has been already notified, the Scott Life Guard (4th N. Y.), the 11th Regiment, (Hawkins Zouaves), are going to take the field again. It is understood to be the intention of the 9th Regiment, who came back with every officer alive and 600 men in good health, to try their fortune at fighting a second time. As all of the city regiments who have been sent up to this time, are now recruiting for a second term of service, it may fairly be assumed that the great majority of the two-year regiments will go back to the front. Many who served as privates will obtain commissions in the reorganized regiments; but those who cannot do this will take their old places in the ranks. A large number of new volunteers are coming forward at the various recruiting stations in the city. The country regiments, for the most part, are also being re-organized. It is now as if the war were being fought by the system of volunteerism, the system of the present liberal franchise."

Philadelphia, June 15.—A dispatch to a Philadelphia paper from a friend of the cause, says that Gen. Grant, in his last report, regarding permission to re-organize the regiments, has ordered a number of officers to be sent to the front, and that the wounded and disabled are being sent to the rear.

had been humanely treated by his own surgeons and that the prisoners had all been forwarded to Richmond. The rebels stated an objection to having our surgeons entering their lines to attend to our men, that one of our surgeons had returned with information, which had been used against them. They were willing to admit that provided the surgeons would go to Richmond with the prisoners and remain some time before being released to our lines.

Our Army Correspondence.

We publish herewith a very interesting letter from Benjamin T. Wilson, of the 77th Illinois regiment, and brother of Mr. George H. Wilson of this city. It certainly is the language of a patriot and a true soldier.

BATTLE FIELD BEFORE VICKSBURG, MAY 27th.

DEAR BROTHER.—I thought perhaps, you would like to hear from me and of some of the doings of Gen. Grant's Army for the past few weeks, and thought I could not pass up an hour of leisure now before we better than by giving you a few of the many events that have transpired since I last wrote to you. First allow me to remind you of the letter I mailed to you about the 11th of April, which remains unanswered. I hope you may take the time and not accordingly. My health is good yet, with the exception of a cold taken on the 22d. Since writing to you we have seen and felt what it is to be a soldier. Oh, George, I have witnessed both sides. I have seen the resources that will seize hold of the soldier when victory after victory crown him, but Oh! the human misery, pain and anguish, that is all for him. I will not attempt to tell you of the trials, the forced marches, by night and by day, sometimes lying on the damp wet ground, with nothing but a blanket or over us, sometimes snowed in rain and mud, with only a few pieces of clothing, many hours we have marched on, tired, weary and hungry for over 200 miles, through the swamps of Louisiana and over the hills of Mississippi. I say I will not enter in the particulars of that long to be remembered march, but believe me when I tell you, all was borne without a murmur, or one word of discontent. On the first day of May our Division moved on a march, at the battle of Port Gibson, although it did not do more than to fire a gun, yet we were in danger all day from the enemy's shell. After a three and a half day's march on the 10th, we were ordered to march on the 11th, which Hovey, Carr, and the 2nd Ohio Cavalry were the victors, the rebels fled across the Bayou, burning the beautiful iron bridge at Port Gibson; in three hours our Division had a Pontoon thrown across, and on we went again. The 10th day of May found us bivouacked about one half mile from the town of Raymond, Miss. Early in the morning of the 10th, we took up our line of march towards Vicksburg, with Osterhouse and Carr in the advance, our Division still in the rear. We had marched about three miles when we were ordered in line of battle, we remained in line all day expecting to be drawn in line every moment, but were not really only for about two hours. At this time we were drawn up in line for about two hours down in a deep ravine, the shell played about us quite brisk, but doing us no harm, except wounding one Lieutenant in Co. K in the arm. That night our Brigade lay with their accoutrements on by their guns, thus passed away another day. On the morning of the 17th we found that the enemy had fled as usual, leaving their dead and wounded on the field, on we went again, for a short distance, when our advance again met them, this time by Black River bridge, and about three miles from Champion Hill, the scene of the battle the day before, this time it was discovered that the rebels had a long line of breast works, and rifle pits with plenty of artillery to support them, but notwithstanding all this, they were not equal to the soldiers of the north. After a three hour battle Osterhouse covered himself over with glory, the enemy were forced to run, leaving their dead and wounded, and several pieces of artillery on the field. On the 17th we crossed Black River burning a fine Rail-road bridge after them. For some time our marching was not without incident. We were bivouacked at night in their rifle pits and breast works. At about 10 p.m. we took up our line of march again, and crossed Black River on a pontoon, our Division in the front this time, shortly on we moved, in a short time we passed through Edwards Station, where we found the rebels had also done more of their marching, and had torn up the track, burnt a large quantity of provisions, Rail-road cars, &c. On we moved that day to within a little over two miles of the fort in the rear of Vicksburg, where again we bivouacked for the night. Early in the morning of the 18th we slowly took up our line of march towards the rebel forts, after marching about one mile, we were suddenly halted by Adjutant General Tracy, who ordered our Brigade into line on the double quick, in the field at our left, saying at the same time that the rebels were taking up our left flank, here we remained until the order of our line of battle was arranged, which was in the following order: Gen's Sherman and McPherson Corps, formed the right wing, Gen. McClernand's Corps formed the left wing, Smith's Division forming the centre of McClernand's Corps, Gen. Carr's Division at our left, Gen. Osterhouse at our extreme left, the other two Divisions in McClernand's Corps, at our right with General Hovey's Division as a reserve, about 11 a.m. our Brigade moved about a quarter of a mile forward and a little to the left, down in a deep ravine, as soon as we were down there and in line, the enemy commenced pouring in shell, but after throwing in about fifty, they doing us no harm, they quit the fun. At 2 p.m. a grand advance was made for and across the whole line, our Brigade advancing through a perfect hail of grape, canister, shell and bullets, to another deep ravine about half a mile from where we started from. In this charge our regiment lost 17 in killed and wounded, our regiment advanced to the brow of the hill above them, where they remained as sharpshooters until after dark in the evening. Another day had passed and we have the world before us, and our country's liberty safe in their hands, and here is what we have accomplished since. We have fought the battles of Port Gibson, Champion Hill, and Black River bridge, capturing 15,000 prisoners, 73 cannon with an average of 130 rounds of cartridges for each gun, and from 5000 to 8000 rounds of arms, with an army that have never been whipped in battle. Gen. Grant could not have over-estimated their fighting qualities for the three charges they made on the rebels to be remembered. On the 18th our regiment were relieved by the 19th Ky, and they retired to the ravine below, and they were ordered to cut and halt of the boys with no blankets to cover them. They lie down on the damp ground for a little rest and sleep, we were ordered through the days of the 20th and 21st, nothing unusual excepting in our regiment, except a stray shell or bullet whizzing down through the ravine occasionally, killing or wounding some of the boys. 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